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**FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

**LS 6976**

**BILL NUMBER:** SB 406

**NOTE PREPARED:** Feb 12, 2003

**BILL AMENDED:** Feb 11, 2003

**SUBJECT:** New Grant Office in Department of Commerce.

**FIRST AUTHOR:** Sen. Ford

**FIRST SPONSOR:**

**BILL STATUS:** CR Adopted - 1<sup>st</sup> House

**FUNDS AFFECTED:** X **GENERAL**  
**DEDICATED**  
**FEDERAL**

**IMPACT:** State

**Summary of Legislation:** The bill creates a Grant Office within the Department of Commerce to work with federal agencies, state agencies, colleges and universities, and private sector entities to develop and receive research and development grants.

**Effective Date:** July 1, 2003.

**Explanation of State Expenditures:** (Revised) The bill creates a Grant Office in the Indiana Department of Commerce (IDOC) to be a clearinghouse of: (1) available research and development grant funding sources, and (2) certain Indiana public and private entities that might benefit from federal and private research and development grants. These clearinghouse functions could potentially be performed electronically via an Internet website as has been done in other states (i.e. Georgia, Illinois, Maryland, and Wisconsin) and by higher education institutions. Such a website could be created and maintained by existing staff. The bill also *authorizes* the Grant office to assist entities seeking federal or private research and development funding in preparing grant applications and other documentation. As this provision does not require the IDOC to undertake such assistance, it will have no fiscal impact.

The February 4, 2002 state staffing table indicates that the IDOC maintains a Research Office comprised of 5 positions, 3 of which are vacant. The staffing table also reports a combined total of 19 positions with no vacancies for the IDOC Controller Office and Grants Management. The current state directory lists 8 employees under Grants Management. Overall, the February 7, 2002 state staffing table indicates that the IDOC has 43 vacant full-time positions, including regional office positions.

*Background:* The detailed responsibilities established in the bill for the IDOC Grant Office are as

follows.

(1) The bill specifies that the Grant Office assist Indiana state agencies, public and private colleges and universities, and for-profit and nonprofit entities in researching and developing grant and funding sources, including from the federal government, private foundations, and other funding sources.

(2) The bill requires the Grant Office to search and identify sources of available research and development grants from private foundations and other private sources.

(3) The bill requires the Grant Office to establish and maintain a list of all Indiana state and local government entities, public and private colleges and universities, and for-profit and nonprofit entities that might benefit from federal or private foundation research and development grant money.

(4) The bill authorizes the Grant Office to assist certain Indiana entities seeking federal or private research and development funding in preparing applications and all other documentation to aggressively seek funding for these entities.

**Explanation of State Revenues:**

**Explanation of Local Expenditures:**

**Explanation of Local Revenues:**

**State Agencies Affected:** Indiana Department of Commerce.

**Local Agencies Affected:**

**Information Sources:** Jean Mercer, IUPUI Research and Sponsored Programs, (317) 274-8285.

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